

Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.

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NASA Partners With Discovery Communications for 50th Anniversary



Deputy Administrator Shana Dale unveiled the anniversary logo on September 13 in a ceremony at WIRED Magazine's annual NextFest in Los Angeles.

NASA's "birthday" is October 1, 1958.

NASA and Discovery Communications will join in a broad media partnership to commemorate the space program's 50th anniversary.

The space agency, which was created by the National Aeronautics and Space Act, began operations on Oct. 1, 1958.

The announcement was made in New York at a premiere screening of "In the Shadow of the Moon," a film in which crew members from NASA's Apollo missions tell their story in their own words.

Discovery Channel will air the world television premiere of the film in the summer of 2008.

"This partnership with Discovery enables NASA to bring the excitement of 50 years of exploration and discovery to a wider audience," said Robert Hopkins, NASA chief of Strategic Communications, Headquarters, Washington.

"This leverages NASA's compelling content with Discovery's state-of-the-art

production capability and technology to tell the NASA story - past, present and future - through a variety of media and platforms," said Hopkins.

The partnership will encompass on-air and online components as well as grassroots activities throughout 2008, including educational workshops and local screenings.

Special programming on Discovery in the spring and summer of 2008 will celebrate NASA with never-before-seen archival footage. Podcasts and interactive features at Discovery's Web site will enable viewers and users to take a closer look at NASA's history and its plans for the future.

"We honor not only 50 years of wonder, achievement and surprise; but also look toward a bright future of new discoveries. Our planned 2008 specials and series documenting NASA's greatest moments will inspire a new generation to explore and innovate," said Jane Root, president and general manager, Discovery Channel and The Science Channel, Silver Spring, Md.

Wallops Shorts.....

Launch

A NASA scientific balloon was launched September 13 from Ft. Sumner, N.M. The 29.47 million cubic foot balloon carried the Solar Bolometric Imager (SBI).

The instrument is a 15-in diameter and approximately 40-in long telescope with a specialized digital camera attached to the back. Constantly pointed at the Sun, SBI took images of the Sun on a wide spectral range with a constant sensitivity. These observations will investigate the sources of solar irradiance variation at the minimum of solar activity to detect thermal structures that cannot be easily observed during the rest of the solar cycle. These thermal structures may contribute

to changes of the total solar energy output and may play an important role in Earth's climate changes.

Dr. Pietro Bernasconi, Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory, was the experimenter. Excellent data was collected throughout the flight. Total flight time was 17 hours, 52 minutes. Float altitude was 123,000 feet.

In the Field

A NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) team is on site at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii, to support an upcoming mission with the Missile Defense Agency.



Diversity Council Words to Live By

"We allow our ignorance to prevail upon us and make us think we can survive alone, alone in patches, alone in groups, alone in races, even alone in genders."

.....Maya Angelou

Employee Appreciation Picnic

Thursday, September 20
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Outside of the Cafeteria, Building E-2

Free Food
Entertainment



The Wallops Exchange and Morale Association (WEMA) Executive Board would like to thank Wallops employees for their patronage of the Cafeteria, Exchange, and Rocket Club. Join your co-workers for a WEMA sponsored picnic.

Raindate: Tuesday, September 25

EAP Lunch & Learn "Forgiveness"

September 19
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Williamsburg Room - Bldg. E-2

How to make peace with your past and get on with your life will be the discussion of this month's Employee Assistant Program, Lunch & Learn with Tom Northern.

Come and discuss what forgiveness is, and isn't, and how not forgiving can be a way of staying stuck.

August was Warm and Dry by Bob Steiner, Meteorologist

August was 1.2 degrees warmer than normal, with an average temperature of 77 degrees. We experienced four days with readings of 90 or greater. A 97 degree reading on August 8 was hottest day of the month and set a new daily record for the date.

The old record was a reading of 96 degrees in 1977.

The coolest overnight temperature during the month was 59 degrees recorded on the morning of August 12. No record lows were set or tied.

Although it rained on 11 days, one more than average, we were still 0.87 inches below average with a total of only 2.98 inches. The wettest 24 hour period occurred on August 20 and 21 when 1.12 inches of rainfall was recorded.

Winds of 30 mph or greater were experienced on three days with 33 mph recorded at 9:14 p.m. on the August 10 being the greatest.



October is the first full month of autumn. Temperatures begin to cool and leaves change color.



We can look forward to daily highs of 73 degrees at the beginning of the month and average only 64 degrees at the end of the month. Night time lows start the month at 54 degrees, cooling to 46 by the end of the month.

The record high for October is 90 degrees recorded on October 3 and 5, 2002. A reading of 26 degrees on the October 28, 1976 is the record low at Wallops Flight Facility.

Look for 3.54 inches of precipitation to fall during the month on an average of eight days.

The wettest October on record at Wallops occurred in 1998 when 9.78 inches of rain fall was recorded.

The most rain recorded on a single day in October was on the 10th in 1971 when we experienced 4.43 inches.

Do not let the fall colors and cooling temperatures lull you into a state of complacency. We will still have two months left to hurricane season.

October also is a good time to begin preparing for winter. Pull the jackets and sweaters out of storage.

Pre-SAT Testing Workshop For High School Juniors and Seniors

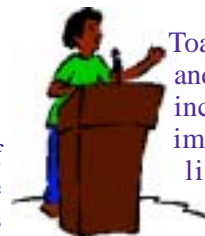
Saturday, September 22
7:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Metompink Baptist Church
Rt. 13, Parksley, VA

The deadline to register is September 20. The first 30 registered students will be accepted. Bring a calculator. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by the Wallops Black History Club.

For further information or to register, contact Rebecca Beach at x1625 or Cheryl Johnson at x1607

Debedeavon Toastmasters

September 19
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Cropper Center



Toastmasters provides training and practice in public speaking, including prepared speeches, impromptu speaking, active listening and speech evaluation.

For further information contact Micaela Barnhill at x1641.



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Editor

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